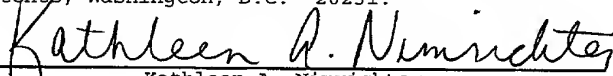


Express Mail No. EL 852682757 US

Date of Deposit October 25, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Kathleen A. Nimrichter

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Yuzuru Suzuki et al.

For : STEPPING MOTOR

Serial No. : Unknown

Filing Date : Herewith

Attorney Docket No. : SZI 2 0018

Cleveland, Ohio 44114
October 25, 2001

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. The stepping motor according to claim 1, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

10004390 105001

Please add new claim 4 as follows:

4. The stepping motor according to claim 2, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

T0520F 0624000F

REMARKS

This application basis its priority on Japanese application serial number 329953/2000. The Japanese application, and its English translation, include a multiply dependent claim. Applicant takes this opportunity to remove the multiple dependency from the claims being submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In addition, applicant hereby adds a new dependent claim 4.

Prompt and favorable examination of pending claims 1-4 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



Jay F. Moldovanyi, Reg. No. 29,678
1100 Superior Avenue, Suite 700
Cleveland OH 44114-2513
(216) 861-5582

EXHIBIT A

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The stepping motor according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

Please add new claim 4 as follows:

4. (New) The stepping motor according to claim 2, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.